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15
16 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
17 **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**
18

19 MILDRED PARRILLO, individually
20 and on behalf of all others similarly
21 situated,

22 Plaintiff,

23 v.

24 EPISOURCE, LLC,

25 Defendant.

Case No.: 2:25-cv-05504

26 **CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT:**

- 27 1. Negligence
- 28 2. Invasion of Privacy – Public Disclosure of Private Facts, and California Constitutional Right to Privacy
3. Violation of California Unfair Competition Law, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*
4. Violation of California Consumer Privacy Act, Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1798.80, *et seq.*

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

Plaintiff Mildred Parrillo (“Plaintiff”), individually and on behalf of all persons who are similarly situated, brings this action against Defendant Episource, LLC (“Episource” or “Defendant”) to obtain damages, restitution, and injunctive relief from Defendant. Plaintiff makes the following allegations upon information and belief, except as to her own actions, the investigation of her counsel, and facts that are a matter of public record.

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This class action arises out of the recent data security incident and data breach that was perpetrated against Defendant Episource (the “Data Breach”), which held in its possession certain personally identifiable information (“PII”) and protected health information (“PHI”) (collectively, “the Private Information”) of Plaintiff and other individuals associated with Defendant Episource, the putative Class Members (“Class”). These individuals, upon information and belief, include patients of Episource’s clients and employees with Episource. This Data Breach occurred on or about January 27, 2025 through February 6, 2025.

2. The Private Information compromised in the Data Breach included certain personal or protected health information including, but not limited to: full names, dates of birth, Social Security numbers, email addresses, health insurance information, and health data.

3. The Private Information was compromised in what Episource refers to as “a data security event” in which it “found unusual activity in [its] computer systems.” In other words, the cybercriminals intentionally targeted Episource for the highly sensitive Private Information it stores on its computer network, attacked the insufficiently secured network, then had unfettered access to Defendant’s computer network, exfiltrating highly sensitive PII and PHI, including Social Security

1 numbers. As a result, the Private Information of Plaintiff and Class remains in the
2 hands of those cybercriminals.¹

3 4. The Data Breach was a direct result of Defendant's failure to implement
4 adequate and reasonable cybersecurity procedures and protocols necessary to protect
5 individuals' Private Information with which it was entrusted employment.

6 5. Plaintiff brings this class action lawsuit on behalf of herself and all
7 persons who are similarly situated to address Defendant's inadequate safeguarding
8 of Class Members' Private Information that it collected and maintained, for failing
9 to promptly detect the cyberattack, and for failing to provide timely and adequate
10 notice to Plaintiff and other Class Members that their information had been subject
11 to the unauthorized access and exfiltration by cybercriminals.

12 6. Defendant maintained the Private Information in a reckless manner. In
13 particular, the Private Information was maintained on Defendant Episource's
14 computer network in a condition vulnerable to cyberattacks. Upon information and
15 belief, the mechanism of the Data Breach and potential for improper disclosure of
16 Plaintiff's and Class Members' Private Information was a known risk to Defendant,
17 and thus Defendant was on notice that failing to take steps necessary to secure the
18 Private Information from those risks left that property in a dangerous condition.

19 7. Defendant disregarded the rights of Plaintiff and Class Members by,
20 inter alia, intentionally, willfully, recklessly, or negligently failing to take adequate
21 and reasonable measures to ensure its data systems were protected against
22 unauthorized intrusions; failing to disclose that it did not have adequately robust
23 computer systems and security practices to safeguard Plaintiff's and Class Members'
24 Private Information; failing to take standard and reasonably available steps to
25

26
27 ¹ <https://response.idx.us/episource/>; see also Plaintiff's Notice Letter, attached as
28 Exhibit A (last visited June 17, 2025).

1 prevent the Data Breach; and failing to provide Plaintiff and Class Members with
2 prompt and full notice of the Data Breach.

3 8. In addition, Defendant Episource failed to properly monitor the
4 computer network and systems that housed the Private Information. Had Episource
5 properly monitored its property, it would have discovered the intrusion sooner rather
6 than allowing cybercriminals unimpeded access to the PII and PHI of Plaintiff and
7 Class Members for an undisclosed amount of time.

8 9. Plaintiff's and Class Members' identities are now at risk because of
9 Defendant's negligent conduct since the Private Information that Defendant
10 Episource collected and maintained is now in the hands of cybercriminals, and their
11 Private Information has been sold or is in imminent risk of being sold on the Dark
12 Web.

13 10. Armed with the Private Information accessed in the Data Breach,
14 cybercriminals can commit a variety of crimes including, e.g., opening new financial
15 accounts in Class Members' names, taking out loans in Class Members' names,
16 using Class Members' information to obtain government benefits, filing fraudulent
17 tax returns using Class Members' information, filing false medical claims using
18 Class Members' information, obtaining driver's licenses in Class Members' names
19 but with another person's photograph, and giving false information to police during
20 an arrest.

21 11. As a result of the Data Breach, Plaintiff and Class Members have been
22 exposed to a heightened and imminent risk of fraud and identity theft. Plaintiff and
23 Class Members must now and for years into the future closely monitor their financial
24 accounts to guard against identity theft.

25 12. Plaintiff and Class Members have or soon may incur out-of-pocket
26 costs for, e.g., purchasing credit monitoring services, credit freezes, credit reports,
27 or other protective measures to deter and detect identity theft.

14. Accordingly, Plaintiff brings this action against Defendant seeking redress for its unlawful conduct, and asserting claims for: (i) negligence, (ii) violation of California Unfair Competition Law, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*; (iii) violation of California Consumer Privacy Act, Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1798.80, *et seq.*; and (iv) public disclosure of private facts, and California constitutional right to privacy.

15. Plaintiff seeks remedies including, but not limited to, compensatory damages, reimbursement of out-of-pocket costs, and injunctive relief including improvements to Defendant's data security systems, future annual audits, as well as long-term and adequate credit monitoring services funded by Defendant.

PARTIES

16. Plaintiff Mildred Parrillo is and at all times mentioned herein was an individual citizen of the State of Rhode Island. Parrillo received notice of the Data Breach dated June 6, 2025, attached in Exhibit A.

PARTIES

16. Plaintiff Mildred Parrillo is and at all times mentioned herein was an individual citizen of the State of Rhode Island. Parrillo received notice of the Data Breach dated June 6, 2025, attached in Exhibit A.

17. Defendant Episource LLC is a California limited liability company, with its principal place of business located at 500 West 190th Street, 4th floor, Gardena, California 90248. Episource can be served by any of its registered agent authorized employees such as Amanda Garcia, Gabriela Sanchez, Daisy Montenegro, or others at 330 N. Brand Blvd, Glendale, California 91203.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

18. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d) because this is a class action wherein the amount in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$5,000,000, exclusive of interest and costs, there are

1 more than 100 members in the proposed class, and at least one member of the class
2 is a citizen of a state different from Defendant.

3 19. The Court has general personal jurisdiction over Defendant because,
4 personally or through its agents, Defendant operates, conducts, engages in, or carries
5 on a business or business venture in this State; it is registered with the Secretary of
6 State as a limited liability company; it maintains its headquarters in California; and
7 committed tortious acts in California.

8 20. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391 because it
9 is the district within which Episource has the most significant contacts.

10 **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

11 ***Defendant's Business***

12 21. Episource is a company that provides “medical coding and risk
13 adjustment services to doctors, health plans, and other health companies.”²

14 22. Episource claims to have “lobal team of over 8,000 coders, engineers,
15 and analysts leverage multifaceted data solutions and industry-leading expertise to
16 help solve the trickiest problems and realize unmet potential.”³

17 23. For the purposes of this Class Action Complaint, all of Episource’s
18 associated locations and subentities will be referred to collectively as “Episource.”

19 24. In the ordinary course of business receiving services from Defendant
20 Episource, each business customer, on behalf of Plaintiff and Class Members, were
21 required to provide Defendant Episource with sensitive, personal, and private
22 information, such as Plaintiff and Class Members:

- 23 • Name, address, phone number, and email address;
- 24 • Date of birth;
- 25 • Social Security number;

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27 ² <https://response.idx.us/episource/> (last visited June 17, 2025).

28 ³ <https://www.episource.com/company/> (last visited June 17, 2025).

- 1 • Demographic information;
- 2 • Health Insurance information;
- 3 • General Health Information; and
- 4 • Driver's license or state or federal identification;

5 25. Upon information and belief, Episource has a privacy policy that is
6 provided upon accepting services.⁴

7 26. Defendant promises in its privacy policy to “maintain administrative,
8 technical, and physical safeguards designed to protect the Information that you
9 provide on our Online Services.”⁵

10 27. Defendant Episource agreed to and undertook legal duties to maintain
11 the protected personal information entrusted to it by Plaintiff and Class Members
12 safely, confidentially, and in compliance with all applicable laws, including the
13 Federal Trade Commission Act (“FTCA”), 15 U.S.C. § 45 and the California Online
14 Privacy Protection Act.

15 28. Yet, through its failure to properly secure the Private Information of
16 Plaintiff and Class, Episource has not adhered to its own promises of individuals’
17 rights.⁶

18 29. The Private Information held by Defendant Episource in its computer
19 system and network included the highly sensitive Private Information of Plaintiff
20 and Class Members.

21 ***The Data Breach***

22 30. A data breach occurs when cybercriminals intend to access and steal
23 Private Information that has not been adequately secured by a business entity like
24 Episource.

25
26 ⁴ <https://www.episource.com/privacy/> (last visited June 17, 2025).

27 ⁵ *Id.*

28 ⁶ *Id.*

1 31. According to the June 6, 2025 dated “Notice of Data Breach” that
2 Episource sent to Plaintiff, “[o]n February 6, 2025, we found activity in our
3 computer systems. We quickly took steps to stop the activity.”⁷

4 32. Episource ultimately determined that its computer systems had been
5 compromised by an unauthorized third party. Episource claims they are unable to
6 confirm all of the information that was specifically impacted.

7 33. It claims the data stolen contained:

8 (such as name, address, phone number and email), plus one or more of
9 the following: Health insurance data such as health plans/policies,
10 insurance companies, member/group ID numbers, and Medicaid-
11 Medicare-government payor ID numbers; Health data such as medical
12 record numbers, doctors, diagnoses, medicines, test results, images,
13 care, and treatment; Other personal data such as Social Security number
14 (in limited instances) or date of birth.⁸

15 34. Episource failed to notify Plaintiff and Class Members of the data
16 breach for 5 whole months.

17 35. Defendant had obligations created by the California statutes, FTCA,
18 contract, industry standards, common law, and representations made to Plaintiff and
19 Class Members to keep their Private Information confidential and to protect it from
20 unauthorized access and disclosure.

21 36. Plaintiff and Class Members provided their Private Information to
22 Defendant with the reasonable expectation and mutual understanding that Defendant
23 would comply with its obligations to keep such information confidential and secure
24 from unauthorized access.

25
26
27 ⁷ See Notice Letter, Exhibit A

28 ⁸ <https://response.idx.us/episource/> (last visited June 17, 2025).

***The Data Breach Was a
Foreseeable Risk of Which Defendant Was on Notice.***

37. It is well known that PII, including Social Security numbers in particular, is a valuable commodity and a frequent, intentional target of cybercriminals. Organizations that collect such information, including Episource, are well-aware of the risk of being targeted by cybercriminals.

38. Individuals place a high value not only on their PII, but also on the privacy of that data. Identity theft causes severe negative consequences to its victims, as well as severe distress and hours of lost time trying to fight against the impact of identity theft.

39. A data breach increases the risk of becoming a victim of identity theft. Victims of identity theft can suffer from both direct and indirect financial losses. According to a research study published by the Department of Justice, “[a] direct financial loss is the monetary amount the offender obtained from misusing the victim’s account or personal information, including the estimated value of goods, services, or cash obtained. It includes both out-of-pocket loss and any losses that were reimbursed to the victim. An indirect loss includes any other monetary cost caused by the identity theft, such as legal fees, bounced checks, and other miscellaneous expenses that are not reimbursed (e.g., postage, phone calls, or notary fees). All indirect losses are included in the calculation of out-of-pocket loss.”⁹

40. Individuals, like Plaintiff and Class Members, are particularly concerned with protecting the privacy of their Social Security numbers, which are the key to stealing any person’s identity and is likened to accessing your DNA for hacker’s purposes.

⁹ “Victims of Identity Theft, 2018,” U.S. Dep’t of Justice (Apr. 2021, NCJ 256085), <https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/vit18.pdf> (last visited June 17, 2025).

1 41. Data Breach victims suffer long-term consequences when their Social
2 Security numbers are taken and used by hackers. Even if they know their Social
3 Security numbers are being misused, Plaintiff and Class Members cannot obtain new
4 numbers unless they become a victim of Social Security number misuse.

5 42. The Social Security Administration has warned that “a new number
6 probably won’t solve all your problems. This is because other governmental
7 agencies (such as the IRS and state motor vehicle agencies) and private businesses
8 (such as banks and credit reporting companies) will have records under your old
9 number. Along with other personal information, credit reporting companies use the
10 number to identify your credit record. So using a new number won’t guarantee you
11 a fresh start. This is especially true if your other personal information, such as your
12 name and address, remains the same.”¹⁰

13 43. In 2021, there were a record 1,862 data breaches last year, surpassing
14 both 2020's total of 1,108 and the previous record of 1,506 set in 2017.¹¹

15 44. Additionally in 2021, there was a 15.1% increase in cyberattacks and
16 data breaches since 2020. Over the next two years, in a poll done on security
17 executives, they have predicted an increase in attacks from “social engineering and
18 ransomware” as nation-states and cybercriminals grow more sophisticated.
19 Unfortunately, these preventable causes will largely come from “misconfigurations,
20 human error, poor maintenance, and unknown assets.”¹²

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24 ¹⁰ <https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10064.pdf> (last visited June 17, 2025).

25 ¹¹ <https://www.cnet.com/tech/services-and-software/record-number-of-data-breaches-reported-in-2021-new-report-says/> (last visited June 17, 2025).

26 ¹² <https://www.forbes.com/sites/chuckbrooks/2022/06/03/alarming-cyber-statistics-for-mid-year-2022-that-you-need-to-know/?sh=176bb6887864> (last visited June 17,
27 2025).

1 45. Cyberattacks have become so notorious that the FBI and U.S. Secret
2 Service have issued a warning to potential targets so they are aware of, and prepared
3 for, and hopefully can ward off a cyberattack.

4 46. According to an FBI publication, “[r]ansomware is a type of malicious
5 software, or malware, that prevents you from accessing your computer files,
6 systems, or networks and demands you pay a ransom for their return. Ransomware
7 attacks can cause costly disruptions to operations and the loss of critical information
8 and data.”¹³ This publication also explains that “[t]he FBI does not support paying a
9 ransom in response to a ransomware attack. Paying a ransom doesn’t guarantee you
10 or your organization will get any data back. It also encourages perpetrators to target
11 more victims and offers an incentive for others to get involved in this type of illegal
12 activity.”¹⁴

13 47. Despite the prevalence of public announcements of data breach and
14 data security compromises, and despite its own acknowledgments of data security
15 compromises, and despite its own acknowledgment of its duties to keep PII private
16 and secure, Episource failed to take appropriate steps to protect the PII of Plaintiff
17 and the proposed Class from being compromised.

18 ***Defendant Fails to Comply with FTC Guidelines.***

19 48. The Federal Trade Commission (“FTC”) has promulgated numerous
20 guides for businesses which highlight the importance of implementing reasonable
21 data security practices. According to the FTC, the need for data security should be
22 factored into all business decision-making.

23 49. In October 2016, the FTC updated its publication, Protecting Personal
24 Information: A Guide for Business, which established cybersecurity guidelines for
25

26 ¹³ [https://www.fbi.gov/how-we-can-help-you/safety-resources/scams-and-](https://www.fbi.gov/how-we-can-help-you/safety-resources/scams-and-safety/common-scams-and-crimes/ransomware)
27 [safety/common-scams-and-crimes/ransomware](https://www.fbi.gov/how-we-can-help-you/safety-resources/scams-and-safety/common-scams-and-crimes/ransomware) (last visited June 17, 2025).

28 ¹⁴ *Id.*

1 businesses. The guidelines note that businesses should protect the personal
2 information that they keep; properly dispose of personal information that is no longer
3 needed; encrypt information stored on computer networks; understand their
4 network's vulnerabilities; and implement policies to correct any security problems.¹⁵
5 The guidelines also recommend that businesses use an intrusion detection system to
6 expose a breach as soon as it occurs; monitor all incoming traffic for activity
7 indicating someone is attempting to hack the system; watch for large amounts of
8 data being transmitted from the system; and have a response plan ready in the event
9 of a breach.¹⁶

10 50. The FTC further recommends that organizations not maintain PII
11 longer than is needed for authorization of a transaction; limit access to sensitive data;
12 require complex passwords to be used on networks; use industry-tested methods for
13 security; monitor for suspicious activity on the network; and verify that third-party
14 service providers have implemented reasonable security measures.

15 51. The FTC has brought enforcement actions against organizations like
16 Episource's for failing to adequately and reasonably protect individuals' data,
17 treating the failure to employ reasonable and appropriate measures to protect against
18 unauthorized access to confidential consumer data as an unfair act or practice
19 prohibited by Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act ("FTCA"), 15 U.S.C.
20 § 45. Orders resulting from these actions further clarify the measures businesses
21 must take to meet their data security obligations.

22 52. Defendant failed to properly implement basic data security practices.
23
24

25 ¹⁵ *Protecting Personal Information: A Guide for Business*, FTC (2016), [http://www.ftc.gov/system/files/documents/plain-language/pdf-0136_proteting-](http://www.ftc.gov/system/files/documents/plain-language/pdf-0136_proteting-personal-information.pdf)
26 [personal-informatio n.pdf](http://www.ftc.gov/system/files/documents/plain-language/pdf-0136_proteting-personal-information.pdf) (last visited Feb. 7, 2024).
27

28 ¹⁶ *Id.*

53. Defendant's failure to employ reasonable and appropriate measures to protect against unauthorized access to individuals' Private Information constitutes an unfair act or practice prohibited by Section 5 of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 45.

54. Defendant was at all times fully aware of its obligation to protect the Private Information of individuals seeking or receiving services. Defendant was also aware of the significant repercussions that would result from its failure to do so.

Defendant Fails to Comply with Industry Standards.

55. As shown above, experts studying cybersecurity routinely identify social service providers as being particularly vulnerable to cyberattacks because of the value of the Private Information which they collect and maintain.

56. Several best practices have been identified that a minimum should be implemented by service providers like Defendant, including but not limited to: educating all employees; utilizing strong passwords; creating multi-layer security, including firewalls, anti-virus, and anti-malware software; encryption, making data unreadable without a key; using multi-factor authentication; protecting backup data, and; limiting which employees can access sensitive data.

57. Other best cybersecurity practices that are standard in the service industry include installing appropriate malware detection software; monitoring and limiting the network ports; protecting web browsers and email management systems; setting up network systems such as firewalls, switches and routers; monitoring and protection of physical security systems; protection against any possible communication system; training staff regarding critical points.

58. Defendant failed to meet the minimum standards of any of the following frameworks: the NIST Cybersecurity Framework Version 1.1 (including without limitation PR.AC-1, PR.AC-3, PR.AC-4, PR.AC-5, PR.AC-6, PR.AC-7, PR.AT-1, PR.DS-1, PR.DS-5, PR.PT-1, PR.PT-3, DE.CM-1, DE.CM-4, DE.CM-7, DE.CM-8, and RS.CO-2), and the Center for Internet Security's Critical Security

1 Controls (CIS CSC), which are all established standards in reasonable cybersecurity
2 readiness.

3 59. These frameworks are existing and applicable industry standards in the
4 healthcare industry, yet Defendant failed to comply with these accepted standards,
5 thereby opening the door to and causing the Data Breach.

6 ***Defendant Has Breached its Obligations to Plaintiff and the Class.***

7 60. Defendant breached its obligations to Plaintiff and Class Members
8 and/or was otherwise negligent and reckless because it failed to properly maintain
9 and safeguard Episource's computer systems and Class Members' data. Defendant's
10 unlawful conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following acts and/or omissions:

- 11 a. Failing to maintain an adequate data security system to reduce
12 the risk of data breaches and cyberattacks;
- 13 b. Failing to adequately protect Class Members' Private
14 Information;
- 15 c. Failing to properly monitor its own data security systems for
16 existing intrusions;
- 17 d. Failing to ensure that vendors with access to Defendant's data
18 employed reasonable security procedures;
- 19 e. Failing to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of electronic
20 Private Information it created, received, maintained, and/or
21 transmitted;
- 22 f. Failing to implement technical policies and procedures for
23 electronic information systems that maintain electronic PII to
24 allow access only to those persons or software programs that
25 have been granted access rights;
- 26 g. Failing to implement policies and procedures to promptly
27 prevent, detect, contain, and correct security violations;

- h. Failing to implement procedures to review records of information system activity regularly, such as audit logs, access reports, and security incident tracking reports;
- i. Failing to protect against reasonably anticipated threats or hazards to the security or integrity of electronic data;
- j. Failing to protect against reasonably anticipated uses or disclosures of electronic PII that are not permitted under the privacy rules regarding individually identifiable health information;
- l. Failing to train all members of Defendant's workforce effectively on the policies and procedures regarding PII as necessary and appropriate for the members of their workforces to carry out their functions and to maintain security of PII; and/or
- m. Failing to render the electronic PII it maintained unusable, unreadable, or indecipherable to unauthorized individuals.

61. As the result of maintaining its computer systems in manner that required security upgrading, inadequate procedures for handling emails containing ransomware or other malignant computer code, and inadequately trained employees who opened files containing the ransomware virus, Defendant negligently and unlawfully failed to safeguard Plaintiff's and Class Members' Private Information.

62. Accordingly, as outlined below, Plaintiff and Class Members now face an increased risk of fraud and identity theft.

***Data Breaches Put Consumers at an Increased Risk
Of Fraud and Identify Theft.***

63. Data breaches such as the one experienced by Episource's employees are especially problematic because of the disruption they cause to the overall daily lives of victims affected by the attack.

64. In 2019, the United States Government Accountability Office released a report addressing the steps consumers can take after a data breach.¹⁷ Its appendix of steps consumers should consider, in extremely simplified terms, continues for five pages. In addition to explaining specific options and how they can help, one column of the chart explains the limitations of the consumers' options. *See* GAO chart of consumer recommendations, reproduced and attached as Exhibit B. It is clear from the GAO's recommendations that the steps Data Breach victims (like Plaintiff and Class) must take after a breach like Episource's are both time consuming and of only limited and short term effectiveness.

65. The GAO has long recognized that victims of identity theft will face "substantial costs and time to repair the damage to their good name and credit record," discussing the same in a 2007 report as well ("2007 GAO Report").¹⁸

66. The FTC, like the GAO (*see* Exhibit B), recommends that identity theft victims take several steps to protect their personal and financial information after a data breach, including contacting one of the credit bureaus to place a fraud alert (consider an extended fraud alert that lasts for 7 years if someone steals their identity), reviewing their credit reports, contacting companies to remove fraudulent charges from their accounts, placing a credit freeze on their credit, and correcting their credit reports.¹⁹

67. Identity thieves use stolen personal information such as Social Security numbers for a variety of crimes, including credit card fraud, phone or utilities fraud, and bank/finance fraud.

¹⁷ <https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-19-230.pdf> (last visited June 17, 2025). *See* attached as Ex. B.

¹⁸ *See* "Data Breaches Are Frequent, but Evidence of Resulting Identity Theft Is Limited; However, the Full Extent Is Unknown," p. 2, U.S. Gov't Acct. Off. (June 2007), <https://www.gao.gov/new.items/d07737.pdf> (last visited June 17, 2025). ("2007 GAO Report").

¹⁹ *See* <https://www.identitytheft.gov/Steps> (last visited June 17, 2025).

1 68. Identity thieves can also use Social Security numbers to obtain a
2 driver's license or official identification card in the victim's name but with the thief's
3 picture; use the victim's name and Social Security number to obtain government
4 benefits; or file a fraudulent tax return using the victim's information.

5 69. Theft of Private Information is also gravely serious. Private Information
6 is a valuable property right.²⁰

7 70. It must also be noted there may be a substantial time lag – measured in
8 years -- between when harm occurs versus when it is discovered, and also between
9 when Private Information and/or financial information is stolen and when it is used.
10 According to the U.S. Government Accountability Office, which has conducted
11 studies regarding data breaches:

12 [L]aw enforcement officials told us that in some cases, stolen data may be
13 held for up to a year or more before being used to commit identity theft.
14 Further, once stolen data have been sold or posted on the Web, fraudulent use
15 of that information may continue for years. As a result, studies that attempt to
16 measure the harm resulting from data breaches cannot necessarily rule out all
17 future harm.

18 *See* 2007 GAO Report, at p. 29.

19 71. Private Information and financial information are such valuable
20 commodities to identity thieves that once the information has been compromised,
21 criminals often trade the information on the “cyber black-market” for years.

22 72. There is a strong probability that the entirety of the stolen information
23 has been dumped on the black market or will be dumped on the black market,
24

25 ²⁰ *See, e.g.*, John T. Soma, et al, Corporate Privacy Trend: The “Value” of Personally
26 Identifiable Information (“PII”) Equals the “Value” of Financial Assets, 15 Rich.
27 J.L. & Tech. 11, at *3–4 (2009) (“PII, which companies obtain at little cost, has
28 quantifiable value that is rapidly reaching a level comparable to the value of
traditional financial assets.”) (citations omitted).

1 meaning Plaintiff and Class Members are at an increased risk of fraud and identity
2 theft for many years into the future. Thus, Plaintiff and Class Members must
3 vigilantly monitor their personal, financial, and medical accounts for many years to
4 come.

5 73. Furthermore, the Social Security Administration has warned that
6 identity thieves can use an individual's Social Security number to apply for
7 additional credit lines.²¹ Such fraud may go undetected until debt collection calls
8 commence months, or even years, later. Stolen Social Security numbers also make
9 it possible for thieves to file fraudulent tax returns, file for unemployment benefits,
10 or apply for a job using a false identity.²² Each of these fraudulent activities is
11 difficult to detect. An individual may not know that his or her Social Security number
12 was used to file for unemployment benefits until law enforcement notifies the
13 individual's employer of the suspected fraud. Fraudulent tax returns are typically
14 discovered only when an individual's authentic tax return is rejected.

15 74. Moreover, it is not an easy task to change or cancel a stolen Social
16 Security number. An individual cannot obtain a new Social Security number without
17 significant paperwork and evidence of actual misuse. Even then, a new Social
18 Security number may not be effective, as "[t]he credit bureaus and banks are able to
19 link the new number very quickly to the old number, so all of that old bad
20 information is quickly inherited into the new Social Security number."²³

21 75. This data, as one would expect, demands a much higher price on the
22 black market. Martin Walter, senior director at cybersecurity firm RedSeal,

23 ²¹ *Identity Theft and Your Social Security Number* at 1, Soc. Sec. Admin. (2018),
24 <https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10064.pdf> (last visited June 17, 2025).

25 ²² *Id.* at 4.

26 ²³ Brian Naylor, *Victims of Social Security Number Theft Find It's Hard to Bounce*
27 *Back*, NPR (Feb. 9, 2015), [http://www.npr.org/2015/02/09/384875839/data-stolen-](http://www.npr.org/2015/02/09/384875839/data-stolen-by-anthem-s-hackers-has-millions-worrying-about-identity-theft)
28 [by-anthem-s-hackers-has-millions-worrying-about-identity-theft](http://www.npr.org/2015/02/09/384875839/data-stolen-by-anthem-s-hackers-has-millions-worrying-about-identity-theft) (last visited June 17, 2025).

1 explained, “[c]ompared to credit card information, personally identifiable
2 information and Social Security Numbers are worth more than 10x on the black
3 market.”²⁴

4 76. In recent years, medical and social services industries have experienced
5 disproportionally higher numbers of data theft events than other industries.
6 Defendant therefore knew or should have known this and strengthened its data
7 systems accordingly. Defendant was put on notice of the substantial and foreseeable
8 risk of harm from a data breach, yet it failed to properly prepare for that risk.

9 **PLAINTIFF’S EXPERIENCE**

10 ***Plaintiff Mildred Parrillo***

11 77. Plaintiff Mildred Parrillo is and at all times mentioned herein was an
12 individual citizen residing in the State of Rhode Island.

13 78. Plaintiff Parrillo is not sure of her relationship with Episource, she
14 believes her health insurance company or health provider provided Episource with
15 her full name, date of birth, Social Security number, state identification/driver’s
16 license number, and government identification number, as well as other information
17 required on Episource’s forms.

18 79. Plaintiff Parrillo received a Notice of Data Breach Letter, related to
19 Episource’s Data Breach that is dated June 6, 2025. *See* Exhibit A.

20 80. The Notice Letter that Plaintiff Parrillo received indicated that
21 Episource learned of the Data Breach 4 months before she was notified. The letter
22 informed her that her critical PII was accessed. The letter stated the information
23 included her name, address, phone number, email, date of birth, health insurance
24 data, health data, and other personal data. Ex. A.

25 ²⁴ Tim Greene, *Anthem Hack: Personal Data Stolen Sells for 10x Price of Stolen*
26 *Credit Card Numbers*, Computer World (Feb. 6, 2015),
27 [http://www.itworld.com/article/2880960/anthem-hack-personal-data-stolen-sells-](http://www.itworld.com/article/2880960/anthem-hack-personal-data-stolen-sells-for-10x-price-of-stolen-credit-card-numbers.html)
28 [for-10x-price-of-stolen-credit-card-numbers.html](http://www.itworld.com/article/2880960/anthem-hack-personal-data-stolen-sells-for-10x-price-of-stolen-credit-card-numbers.html) (last visited June 17, 2025).

1 81. As a result of this breach, Plaintiff Parrillo has taken efforts to mitigate
2 the impacts of identity theft and fraud by closely monitoring her accounts, and
3 contacting an attorney for help.

4 82. Plaintiff Parrillo is alarmed and very concerned that her Private
5 Information is in the hands of cybercriminals. She is aware that cybercriminals often
6 sell Private Information, and that she could be abused months or even years after this
7 Data Breach.

8 83. Had Plaintiff Parrillo been aware that Episource's computer systems
9 were not secure, she would not have entrusted Episource with her Private
10 Information.

11 **PLAINTIFF'S AND CLASS MEMBERS' INJURIES**

12 84. To date, Defendant Episource has done absolutely nothing to
13 compensate Plaintiff and Class Members for the damages they sustained in the Data
14 Breach.

15 85. Defendant Episource has merely offered 2 year credit monitoring
16 services to IDX, a tacit admission that its failure to protect their Private Information
17 has caused Plaintiff and Class great injuries. *See* Ex. A. This two-year limitation is
18 inadequate when victims are likely to face many years of identity theft.

19 86. Episource's offer fails to sufficiently compensate victims of the Data
20 Breach, who commonly face multiple years of ongoing identity theft, and it entirely
21 fails to provide any compensation for its unauthorized release and disclosure of
22 Plaintiff's and Class Members' Private Information, out of pocket costs, and the time
23 they are required to spend attempting to mitigate their injuries.

24 87. Furthermore, Defendant Episource's credit monitoring offer and advice
25 (*see* Ex. A) to Plaintiff and Class Members squarely places the burden on Plaintiff
26 and Class Members, rather than on the Defendant, to investigate and protect
27 themselves from Defendant's tortious acts resulting in the Data Breach. Defendant
28

1 merely sent instructions to Plaintiff and Class Members about actions they can
2 affirmatively take to protect themselves.

3 88. Plaintiff and Class Members have been damaged by the compromise
4 and exfiltration of their Private Information in the Data Breach, and by the severe
5 disruption to their lives as a direct and foreseeable consequence of this Data Breach.

6 89. Plaintiff's and Class Members' Private Information was compromised
7 and exfiltrated by cybercriminals as a direct and proximate result of the Data Breach.

8 90. Plaintiff and Class Members were damaged in that their Private
9 Information is now in the hands of cybercriminals, sold and potentially for sale for
10 years into the future.

11 91. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's conduct, Plaintiff and
12 Class Members have been placed at an actual, imminent, and substantial risk of harm
13 from fraud and identity theft.

14 92. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's conduct, Plaintiff and
15 Class Members have been forced to expend time dealing with the effects of the Data
16 Breach.

17 93. Plaintiff and Class Members face substantial risk of out-of-pocket fraud
18 losses such as loans opened in their names, medical services billed in their names,
19 tax return fraud, utility bills opened in their names, credit card fraud, and similar
20 identity theft. Plaintiff and Class Members have or may in the near future incur out-
21 of-pocket costs for protective measures such as credit monitoring fees, credit report
22 fees, credit freeze fees, and similar costs directly or indirectly related to the Data
23 Breach.

24 94. Plaintiff and Class Members face substantial risk of being targeted for
25 future phishing, data intrusion, and other illegal schemes based on their Private
26 Information as potential fraudsters could use that information to more effectively
27 target such schemes to Plaintiff and Class Members.

1 95. Plaintiff and Class Members also suffered a loss of value of their
2 Private Information when it was acquired by cyberthieves in the Data Breach.
3 Numerous courts have recognized the propriety of loss of value damages in related
4 cases.

5 96. Plaintiff and Class Members have spent and will continue to spend
6 significant amounts of time to monitor their financial accounts and records for
7 misuse.

8 97. Plaintiff and Class Members have suffered or will suffer actual injury
9 as a direct result of the Data Breach. Many victims suffered ascertainable losses in
10 the form of out-of-pocket expenses and the value of their time reasonably incurred
11 to remedy or mitigate the effects of the Data Breach relating to:

- 12 a. Finding fraudulent charges;
 - 13 b. Canceling and reissuing credit and debit cards;
 - 14 c. Purchasing credit monitoring and identity theft prevention;
 - 15 d. Addressing their inability to withdraw funds linked to
16 compromised accounts;
 - 17 e. Taking trips to banks and waiting in line to obtain funds held in
18 limited accounts;
 - 19 f. Placing “freezes” and “alerts” with credit reporting agencies;
 - 20 g. Spending time on the phone with or at a financial institution to
21 dispute fraudulent charges;
 - 22 h. Contacting financial institutions and closing or modifying
23 financial accounts;
 - 24 i. Resetting automatic billing and payment instructions from
25 compromised credit and debit cards to new ones;
- 26
27
28

1 j. Paying late fees and declined payment fees imposed as a result
2 of failed automatic payments that were tied to compromised
3 cards that had to be cancelled; and

4 k. Closely reviewing and monitoring bank accounts and credit
5 reports for unauthorized activity for years to come.

6 98. Moreover, Plaintiff and Class Members have an interest in ensuring that
7 their Private Information, which is believed to remain in the possession of
8 Defendant, is protected from further breaches by the implementation of security
9 measures and safeguards, including but not limited to, making sure that the storage
10 of data or documents containing personal and financial information is not accessible
11 online and that access to such data is password-protected.

12 99. Further, as a result of Defendant's conduct, Plaintiff and Class
13 Members are forced to live with the anxiety that their Private Information—which
14 contains the most intimate details about a person's life—may be disclosed to the
15 entire world, thereby subjecting them to embarrassment and depriving them of any
16 right to privacy whatsoever.

17 100. Defendant's delay in identifying and reporting the Data Breach caused
18 additional harm. Early notification helps a victim of a Data Breach mitigate their
19 injuries, and in the converse, delayed notification causes more harm and increases
20 the risk of identity theft.

21 **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

22 101. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of themselves and on behalf of all
23 other persons similarly situated.

24 102. Plaintiff proposes the following Class definition, subject to amendment
25 as appropriate:

1 All persons whose Private Information was compromised as a result of
2 the Data Breach discovered by Episource LLC in February 2025 and
3 for which it provided notice (the “Class”).

4 103. Excluded from the Class are Defendant’s officers and directors, and any
5 entity in which Defendant has a controlling interest; and the affiliates, legal
6 representatives, attorneys, successors, heirs, and assigns of Defendant. Excluded
7 also from the Class are members of the judiciary to whom this case is assigned, their
8 families and members of their staff.

9 104. Plaintiff hereby reserves the right to amend or modify the class
10 definitions with greater specificity or division after having had an opportunity to
11 conduct discovery.

12 105. Numerosity. The Members of the Class are so numerous that joinder of
13 all of them is impracticable. Upon information and belief the number of Class
14 Members consists of thousands of individuals.

15 106. Commonality. There are questions of law and fact common to the Class,
16 which predominate over any questions affecting only individual Class Members.
17 These common questions of law and fact include, without limitation:

- 18 a. Whether Defendant unlawfully used, maintained, lost, or
19 disclosed Plaintiff’s and Class Members’ Private Information;
- 20 b. Whether Defendant failed to implement and maintain reasonable
21 security procedures and practices appropriate to the nature and
22 scope of the information compromised in the Data Breach;
- 23 c. Whether Defendant’s data security systems prior to and during
24 the Data Breach complied with applicable data security laws and
25 regulations;
- 26 d. Whether Defendant’s data security systems prior to and during
27 the Data Breach were consistent with industry standards;

- e. Whether Defendant owed a duty to Class Members to safeguard their Private Information;
- f. Whether Defendant breached its duty to Class Members to safeguard their Private Information;
- g. Whether computer hackers obtained Class Members' Private Information in the Data Breach;
- h. Whether Defendant knew or should have known that its data security systems and monitoring processes were deficient;
- i. Whether Plaintiff and Class Members suffered legally cognizable damages as a result of Defendant's misconduct;
- j. Whether Defendant's conduct was negligent;
- k. Whether Defendant's conduct was per se negligent;
- l. Whether Defendant's acts, inactions, and practices complained of herein amount to acts of intrusion upon seclusion under the law;
- m. Whether Defendant was unjustly enriched;
- n. Whether Defendant failed to provide notice of the Data Breach in a timely manner; and
- o. Whether Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to damages, civil penalties, punitive damages, and/or injunctive relief.

107. Typicality. Plaintiff's claims are typical of those of other Class Members because Plaintiff's Private Information, like that of every other Class Member, was compromised in the Data Breach.

108. Adequacy of Representation. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Members of the Class. Plaintiff's counsel is competent and experienced in litigating class actions, including data privacy litigation of this kind.

1 109. Predominance. Defendant has engaged in a common course of conduct
2 toward Plaintiff and Class Members, in that all the Plaintiff's and Class Members'
3 data was stored on the same computer systems and unlawfully accessed in the same
4 way. The common issues arising from Defendant's conduct affecting Class
5 Members set out above predominate over any individualized issues. Adjudication of
6 these common issues in a single action has important and desirable advantages of
7 judicial economy.

8 110. Superiority. A class action is superior to other available methods for the
9 fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy. Class treatment of common
10 questions of law and fact is superior to multiple individual actions or piecemeal
11 litigation. Absent a class action, most Class Members would likely find that the cost
12 of litigating their individual claims is prohibitively high and would therefore have
13 no effective remedy. The prosecution of separate actions by individual Class
14 Members would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect
15 to individual Class Members, which would establish incompatible standards of
16 conduct for Defendant. In contrast, the conduct of this action as a class action
17 presents far fewer management difficulties, conserves judicial resources and the
18 parties' resources, and protects the rights of each Class Member.

19 111. Defendant has acted on grounds that apply generally to the Class as a
20 whole, so that class certification, injunctive relief, and corresponding declaratory
21 relief are appropriate on a class-wide basis.

22 112. Likewise, particular issues under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(c)(4) are
23 appropriate for certification because such claims present only particular, common
24 issues, the resolution of which would advance the disposition of this matter and the
25 parties' interests therein. Such particular issues include, but are not limited to:

- 26 a. Whether Defendant failed to timely notify the public of the Data
27 Breach;

- b. Whether Defendant owed a legal duty to Plaintiff and the Class to exercise due care in collecting, storing, and safeguarding their Private Information;
- c. Whether Defendant's security measures to protect their data systems were reasonable in light of best practices recommended by data security experts;
- d. Whether Defendant's failure to institute adequate protective security measures amounted to negligence;
- e. Whether Defendant failed to take commercially reasonable steps to safeguard consumer Private Information; and
- f. Whether adherence to FTC data security recommendations, and measures recommended by data security experts would have reasonably prevented the Data Breach.

113. Finally, all Members of the proposed Class are readily ascertainable. Defendant has access to Class Members' names and addresses affected by the Data Breach. Class Members have already been preliminarily identified and sent notice of the Data Breach by Defendant.

CAUSES OF ACTION

First Count

Negligence

(On Behalf of Plaintiff and Class Members)

114. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporate the above allegations as if fully set forth herein.

115. Defendant Episource required Plaintiff and Class Members to submit (through its business customers) non-public personal information in order to obtain business services.

1 116. By collecting and storing this data in Episource’s computer property,
2 and sharing it and using it for commercial gain, Defendant had a duty of care to use
3 reasonable means to secure and safeguard their computer property—and Class
4 Members’ Private Information held within it—to prevent disclosure of the
5 information, and to safeguard the information from theft. Defendant’s duty included
6 a responsibility to implement processes by which it could detect a breach of their
7 security systems in a reasonably expeditious period of time and to give prompt notice
8 to those affected in the case of a Data Breach.

9 117. Defendant owed a duty of care to Plaintiff and Class Members to
10 provide data security consistent with industry standards and other requirements
11 discussed herein, and to ensure that its systems and networks, and the personnel
12 responsible for them, adequately protected the Private Information.

13 118. Defendant had a duty to employ reasonable security measures under
14 Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 15 U.S.C. § 45, which prohibits
15 “unfair . . . practices in or affecting commerce,” including, as interpreted and
16 enforced by the FTC, the unfair practice of failing to use reasonable measures to
17 protect confidential data.

18 119. Defendant’s duty to use reasonable care in protecting confidential data
19 arose not only as a result of the statutes and regulations described above, but also
20 because Defendant is bound by industry standards to protect confidential Private
21 Information.

22 120. Defendant breached its duties, and thus were negligent, by failing to
23 use reasonable measures to protect Class Members’ Private Information. The
24 specific negligent acts and omissions committed by Defendant include, but are not
25 limited to, the following:

- 26 a. Failing to adopt, implement, and maintain adequate security
27 measures to safeguard Class Members’ Private Information;
28

- b. Failing to adequately monitor the security of their networks and systems;
- c. Failure to periodically ensure that their email system had plans in place to maintain reasonable data security safeguards;
- d. Allowing unauthorized access to Class Members' Private Information;
- e. Failing to detect in a timely manner that Class Members' Private Information had been compromised;
- f. Failing to timely notify Class Members about the Data Breach so that they could take appropriate steps to mitigate the potential for identity theft and other damages; and
- g. Failing to secure its stand-alone personal computers, such as the reception desk computers, even after discovery of the data breach.

121. It was foreseeable that Defendant's failure to use reasonable measures to protect Class Members' Private Information would result in injury to Class Members. Further, the breach of security was reasonably foreseeable given the known high frequency of cyberattacks and data breaches in the healthcare industry.

122. It was therefore foreseeable that the failure to adequately safeguard Class Members' Private Information would result in one or more types of injuries to Class Members.

123. Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to compensatory and consequential damages suffered as a result of the Data Breach.

124. Defendant's negligent conduct is ongoing, in that it still holds the Private Information of Plaintiff and Class Members in an unsafe and unsecure manner.

1 125. Plaintiff and Class Members are also entitled to injunctive relief
2 requiring Defendant to (i) strengthen its data security systems and monitoring
3 procedures; (ii) submit to future annual audits of those systems and monitoring
4 procedures; and (iii) continue to provide adequate credit monitoring to all Class
5 Members.

6 **Second Count**

7 **Intrusion Upon Seclusion / Invasion of Privacy**

8 **(On Behalf of Plaintiff and All Class Members)**

9 126. Plaintiff re-alleges the above allegations as if fully set forth herein.

10 127. The State of California recognizes the tort of Intrusion upon Seclusion,
11 and adopts the formulation of that tort found in the RESTATEMENT (SECOND) OF
12 TORTS, which states:

13 One who intentionally intrudes, physically or otherwise, upon the solitude or
14 seclusion of another or his private affairs or concerns, is subject to liability to
15 the other for invasion of his privacy, if the intrusion would be highly offensive
16 to a reasonable person.

17 RESTATEMENT (SECOND) OF TORTS § 652B (1977).

18 128. Plaintiff and Class Members had a reasonable expectation of privacy in
19 the Private Information Defendant mishandled.

20 129. Defendant's conduct as alleged above intruded upon Plaintiff's and
21 Class Members' seclusion under common law.

22 130. By intentionally failing to keep Plaintiff's and Class Members' Private
23 Information safe, and by intentionally misusing and/or disclosing said information
24 to unauthorized parties for unauthorized use, Defendant intentionally invaded
25 Plaintiff's and Class Members' privacy by:

- 26 a. Intentionally and substantially intruding into Plaintiff's and
27 Class Members' private affairs in a manner that identifies
28

1 Plaintiff and Class Members and that would be highly offensive
2 and objectionable to an ordinary person;

3 b. Intentionally publicizing private facts about Plaintiff and Class
4 Members, which is highly offensive and objectionable to an
5 ordinary person; and

6 c. Intentionally causing anguish or suffering to Plaintiff and Class
7 Members.

8 131. Defendant knew that an ordinary person in Plaintiff's or Class
9 Members' position would consider Defendant's intentional actions highly offensive
10 and objectionable.

11 132. Defendant invaded Plaintiff's and Class Members' right to privacy and
12 intruded into Plaintiff's and Class Members' private affairs by intentionally
13 misusing and/or disclosing their Private Information without their informed,
14 voluntary, affirmative, and clear consent.

15 133. Defendant intentionally concealed from and delayed reporting to
16 Plaintiff and Class Members a security incident that misused and/or disclosed their
17 Private Information without their informed, voluntary, affirmative, and clear
18 consent.

19 134. The conduct described above was at or directed at Plaintiff and the
20 Class Members.

21 135. As a proximate result of such intentional misuse and disclosures,
22 Plaintiff's and Class Members' reasonable expectations of privacy in their Private
23 Information was unduly frustrated and thwarted. Defendant's conduct amounted to
24 a substantial and serious invasion of Plaintiff's and Class Members' protected
25 privacy interests causing anguish and suffering such that an ordinary person would
26 consider Defendant's intentional actions or inaction highly offensive and
27 objectionable.

136. In failing to protect Plaintiff's and Class Members' Private Information, and in intentionally misusing and/or disclosing their Private Information, Defendant acted with intentional malice and oppression and in conscious disregard of Plaintiff's and Class Members' rights to have such information kept confidential and private. Plaintiff, therefore, seek an award of damages and injunctive relief on behalf of themselves and the Class.

Third Count

Violation of the California Unfair Competition Law

Cal. Bus. & Prof Code §§ 17200, *et seq.* – Unlawful Business Practices

(On Behalf of Plaintiff and All Class Members)

137. Plaintiff realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

138. Defendant have violated Cal. Bus. and Prof. Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*, by engaging in unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business acts and practices and unfair, deceptive, untrue or misleading advertising that constitute acts of “unfair competition” as defined in Cal. Bus. Prof. Code § 17200 with respect to the services provided to the Class.

139. Defendant engaged in unlawful acts and practices with respect to the services by establishing the sub-standard security practices and procedures described herein; by soliciting and collecting Plaintiff's and Class Members' Private Information with knowledge that the information would not be adequately protected; and by storing Plaintiff's and Class Members' Private Information in an unsecure electronic environment in violation of California's data breach statute, Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.81.5, which requires Defendant to take reasonable methods of safeguarding the Private Information of Plaintiff and the Class Members.

140. In addition, Defendant engaged in unlawful acts and practices by failing to disclose the Data Breach in a timely and accurate manner, contrary to the duties

1 imposed by Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.82 and Cal. Health & Safety Code
2 §1280.15(b)(2).

3 141. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's unlawful practices and
4 acts, Plaintiff and Class Members were injured and lost money or property, including
5 but not limited to the price received by Defendant for the services, the loss of
6 Plaintiff's and Class Members' legally protected interest in the confidentiality and
7 privacy of their Private Information, nominal damages, and additional losses as
8 described herein.

9 142. Defendant knew or should have known that Defendant's computer
10 systems and data security practices were inadequate to safeguard Plaintiff's and
11 Class Members' Private Information and that the risk of a data breach or theft was
12 highly likely. Defendant's actions in engaging in the above-named unlawful
13 practices and acts were negligent, knowing and willful, and/or wanton and reckless
14 with respect to the rights of Plaintiff and Class Members.

15 143. Plaintiff, on behalf of the Class, seek relief under Cal. Bus. & Prof.
16 Code §§ 17200, *et seq.*, including, but not limited to, restitution to Plaintiff and Class
17 Members of money or property that Defendant may have acquired by means of
18 Defendant's unlawful, and unfair business practices, restitutionary disgorgement of
19 all profits accruing to Defendant because of Defendant's unlawful and unfair
20 business practices, declaratory relief, attorneys' fees and costs (pursuant to Cal.
21 Code Civ. Proc. § 1021.5), and injunctive or other equitable relief.

22 **Fourth Count**

23 **Violation of California Consumer Privacy Act ("CCPA")**

24 **Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1798.80, *et seq.***

25 **(On Behalf of Plaintiff and Class Members)**

26 144. Plaintiff realleges all of the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth
27 herein.

1 145. Section 1798.2 of the California Civil Code requires any “person or
2 business that conducts business in California, and that owns or licenses
3 computerized data that includes personal information” to “disclose any breach of the
4 security of the system following discovery or notification of the breach in the
5 security of the data to any resident of California whose unencrypted personal
6 information was, or is reasonably believed to have been, acquired by an unauthorized
7 person.” Under section 1798.82, the disclosure “shall be made in the most expedient
8 time possible and without unreasonable delay”

9 146. The CCPA further provides: “Any person or business that maintains
10 computerized data that includes personal information that the person or business
11 does not own shall notify the owner or licensee of the information of any breach of
12 the security of the data immediately following discovery, if the personal information
13 was, or is reasonably believed to have been, acquired by an unauthorized person.”
14 Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.82(b).

15 147. The data breach described above constituted a “breach of the security
16 system” of Defendant, within the meaning of Civil Code § 1798.82(g).

17 148. The information lost in the data breach constituted “personal
18 information” within the meaning of Civil Code § 1798.80(e).

19 149. Defendant failed to implement and maintain reasonable security
20 procedures and practices appropriate to the nature and scope of the information
21 compromised in the Breach.

22 150. Defendant unreasonably delayed informing anyone about the Breach
23 after Defendant knew the Breach had occurred. Defendant waited nearly three
24 months after becoming aware that attackers had gained access to Plaintiff’s and
25 Class Members’ PII before beginning the process of notifying individuals of the
26 Breach.

1 151. Defendant failed to disclose to Class Members, without unreasonable
2 delay, and in the most expedient time possible, the breach of security of their
3 unencrypted, or not properly and securely encrypted, PII when they knew or
4 reasonably believed such information had been compromised.

5 152. Upon information and belief, no law enforcement agency instructed
6 Defendant that notification to Class Members would impede investigation.

7 153. As a result of Defendant's violation of Civil Code §§ 1798.80, *et seq.*,
8 Plaintiff and other Class Members incurred economic damages, including expenses
9 associated with necessary credit monitoring.

10 154. As a result of Defendant's violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.82,
11 Plaintiff and Class Members were deprived of prompt notice of the Data Breach and
12 were thus prevented from taking appropriate protective measures, such as securing
13 identity theft protection or requesting a credit freeze. These measures could have
14 prevented some of the damages suffered by Plaintiff and Class Members because
15 their stolen information would have had less value to identity thieves.

16 155. As a result of Defendant's violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.82,
17 Plaintiff and Class Members suffered incrementally increased damages separate and
18 distinct from those simply caused by the Data Breach itself.

19 156. Plaintiff and Class Members seek all remedies available under Cal. Civ.
20 Code § 1798.84, including, but not limited to the damages suffered by Plaintiff and
21 Class Members as alleged above and equitable relief.

22 157. Defendant's misconduct as alleged herein is fraud under Cal. Civ. Code
23 § 3294(c)(3) in that it was deceit or concealment of a material fact known to the
24 Defendant conducted with the intent on the part of Defendant of depriving Plaintiff
25 and Class Members of "legal rights or otherwise causing injury." In addition,
26 Defendant's misconduct as alleged herein is malice or oppression under Cal. Civ.
27 Code § 3294(c)(1) and (c)(2) in that it was despicable conduct carried on by
28

1 Defendant with a willful and conscious disregard of the rights or safety of Plaintiff
2 and Class Members and despicable conduct that has subjected Plaintiff and Class
3 Members to hardship in conscious disregard of their rights. As a result, Plaintiff and
4 Class Members are entitled to punitive damages against Defendant under Cal. Civ.
5 Code § 3294(a).

6 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

7 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff pray for judgment as follows:

- 8 a) For an Order certifying this action as a class action and
9 appointing Plaintiff and their counsel to represent the Class;
- 10 b) For equitable relief enjoining Defendant from engaging in the
11 wrongful conduct complained of herein pertaining to the misuse
12 and/or disclosure of Plaintiff's and Class Members' Private
13 Information, and from refusing to issue prompt, complete and
14 accurate disclosures to Plaintiff and Class Members;
- 15 c) For equitable relief compelling Defendant to utilize appropriate
16 methods and policies with respect to consumer data collection,
17 storage, and safety, and to disclose with specificity the type of
18 Private Information compromised during the Data Breach;
- 19 d) For equitable relief requiring restitution and disgorgement of the
20 revenues wrongfully retained as a result of Defendant's wrongful
21 conduct;
- 22 e) Ordering Defendant to pay for not less than ten years of credit
23 monitoring services for Plaintiff and the Class;
- 24 f) For an award of actual damages, compensatory damages,
25 statutory damages, and statutory penalties, in an amount to be
26 determined, as allowable by law;
- 27 g) For an award of punitive damages, as allowable by law;
- 28

- 1 h) For an award of attorneys' fees and costs, and any other expense,
2 including expert witness fees;
3 i) Pre- and post-judgment interest on any amounts awarded; and
4 j) Such other and further relief as this court may deem just and
5 proper.

6 **JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

7 Plaintiff demands a trial by jury on all claims so triable.

8
9 Dated: June 17, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

10
11 /s/ Danielle L. Perry

12 Danielle Perry (CA Bar No. 292120)

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